

PUGET SOUND MONITORING CONSORTIUM

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, 27 April 2009 9:00 AM – Noon
U.S. Geological Survey Office in Tacoma
934 Broadway, Third Floor

Draft Agenda

THE MEETING'S GOALS:

1. To assist the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council in determining the governance structure of an integrated, coordinated Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment Program, begin to develop information to provide the Leadership Council before its 27-28 May meeting, including:
 - a) a side-by-side comparison of the potential start-up and on-going operational costs for each model; and
 - b) what is known and not known about cost savings and other efficiencies that might be realized by the Program, including how stakeholders could contribute funding or in-kind services to it.
2. To assist the Legislature and Partnership in beginning to launch the Program during the next few years, review and comment on a draft work plan for the 2009-'11 biennium.

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NOTE: *We are meeting in our alternate meeting location, where we met last month with members of the Leadership Council. Coffee and light refreshments will be served starting at 8:45. Please come early to enjoy them and be prepared to convene the meeting promptly at 9:00.*

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| I. | 9:00 | Welcome and Introductions; Review Agenda and Goals | Jim Reid |
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| II. | 9:05 | Review 25 March Conversation with Leadership Council and 23 April Discussion of Ecosystem Coordination Board | Karen Dinicola/
Scott Redman |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>What information did the Leadership Council request from the Governance Committee to help determine the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment Program's governance structure?</i> | |

- *What did the Ecosystem Coordination Board say last week during its discussion about the two governance models?*
- *Based on these conversations, what should the Governance Committee present to the Leadership Council in late May?*

ATTACHMENTS:

- *Draft Summary of the 25 March 2009 Governance Committee meeting.*

III. 9:20 Information on the Costs of Each Model Everyone

- *In our 10 December 2008 report to the Legislature, at the bottom of page 18, we shared our findings that:*

“An integrated, coordinated monitoring program for Puget Sound would, over time, need a level of staffing comparable to programs elsewhere. Based on staffing levels of programs elsewhere, a minimum of about six to twelve dedicated employees is likely needed to start up the program, manage it, fully support the necessary functions, and provide continuity in the long term. The new program in Puget Sound can also rely on “loaned” staff from other jurisdictions and organizations.”
- *To provide the Leadership Council with information about start-up and on-going operational costs of each model, what, in addition to staff, are the cost categories for each model, what might be “ballpark” costs for each category, and what might be the differences between the two?*
- *Where might we need to go to strengthen these “guesstimates” and find other cost information?*

IV. 9:50 Cost Savings and Efficiencies of the Program Everyone

- *To provide the Leadership Council with information about cost savings and efficiencies, in what ways do we expect the Program to be more efficient and save costs? Is this likely to be the same or similar for each governance model?*
- *Where else might we go to research and produce information about potential savings and efficiencies?*

10:30 break

- V. 10:40 Other Information the Council Needs from Us Everyone
- *If in Session II we identified additional information the Leadership Council is expecting or could use from us, where might we get it and how could we bring it to a level that is credible and helpful to them in time for their May meeting?*
- VI. 10:50 Review *Draft* Work Plan for *Next* Biennium Karen/Scott/Everyone
- *At the end of our discussion with the three Leadership Council members on 25 March, they suggested some other information that might be helpful to them. Those ideas are incorporated into a preliminary work plan that the Partnership might be able to rely on as a path forward in launching the Program. This is not necessarily information the Leadership Council needs to determine a governance structure, and it is a very preliminary work plan.*
 - *What are your initial reactions? Does it include major issues that would need to be addressed in launching the Program? Do the timelines seem right? Is anything wildly “off the mark?” Is anything missing?*
 - *Should we take the time to refine this any further? If so, how? If not, what do we do with it? Hide it from the light of day? Hand it off to Scott and his Partnership colleagues?*
 - **ATTACHMENT:**
 - *Proposed work plan for 2009 and beyond.*
- VII. 11:40 Determine Next Steps, If Any Jim/Everyone
- *Based on today’s discussions and tentative agreements is there more work for the Governance Committee between now and the 27-28 May Leadership Council meeting? If so, how will we complete it?*
 - *How will we present our additional findings to the Leadership Council?*

Noon adjourn

Directions to the USGS office at 934 Broadway, third floor, in downtown Tacoma

A map is available at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/directions.html>

Public transportation:

- Take express buses from Olympia or Seattle to the last stop at 10th and Commerce in downtown Tacoma. Walk up the ramp in the middle of the 9th-11th Street block on Commerce, to the left of the Pierce Transit bus shop and along the fountains, to Broadway Plaza at the top and across the street and to the left to the USGS office building.

Driving directions:

- Northbound or Southbound on I-5, take exit 133 City Center to I-705 and exit A Street and turn left on 11th.
 - Go up 11th to Market Street. Turn right on Market Street and the entrance to the Rhodes Center's parking garage will be on your left. Cross the street via the skybridge to enter the Market Building of the Rhodes Center. Walk through the Market Building and across another skybridge to the Broadway Building. Take the elevator downstairs to the first floor, exit the building, and walk left to the entrance to the USGS office building just past the Children's Museum.
 - OR –
 - Go up 11th and access the Park Plaza North parking garage by turning right on Commerce. The parking entrance is to the left, under the pedestrian skybridge. Take the skybridge across Commerce to Broadway Plaza and walk across the park and to the left to the entrance to the building that houses the USGS office (the entrance is just before the Children's Museum).